Lockport. July 20. 1927.

Rev. S. M. Robinson.

Dear Sir:-

You will perhaps wonder why this letter is written to you instead of to my own pastor. The reason is that you are a younger man and I think can understand the viewpoint of the younger people. I am 31 years old and married as you know but still I feel as though I were only about half that age in some things and want advise. Perhaps I will be able to make my thoughts plain, perhaps not.

I have attend church and Sunday School all my life since I was about 6 years old, joined the church when I was about 12 or 13 when Dr. Albert Evans D.D. was pastor in your church, and have tried to study the Bible, but still I consider myself somewhat of a backslider.

To-day I re-read a book which no doubt you have read. I couldn't say how many times I have read "In His Steps" but each time it seems as though I must try to do more as Christ would have me do. But what can I do? Do you suppose any thing like that could really have happened? Why do not the

people who are recognized as real Christians do as they did more often? While I have never done much that could be called work for Christ, I am always willing to do all I can. I have no particular talent to give to Christ. I play the piano passably well and manage to get by with music for our church. I could not pray aloud with another soul. What I know of the Bible I cannot put into words to tell another what it means to me. I do not have money to give to help His work but in my heart and soul I know I love Jesus and want to do something for Him.

What is there that I can do that Christ would do if He were me? Can you see what I mean?

This is not written just because I read that book today but reading it again has just brought things to where all the secret thoughts of years as to what I can do for Christ must be settled.

My husband is more than 20 years older than I, and while he

is good to me and I have no fault to complain about with him, he cannot understand why I have to go to church so much. He has expressed the opinion that there must be something other than just the service to make me want to be there every sunday.

Hoping that you will not be offended at my boldness in writing so freely to you I remain

Sincerely yours

Mrs. Alfred Gothard

Mrs. Alfred Gothard
359 Walnut St
City
Tel. 1809-J.

July 22, 1927.

Mrs. Alfred Gothard,
359 Walnut Street,
Lockport, New York.

My dear Mrs. Gothard,-

Thank you very much for your letter of July 20th. I am sure ministers would be ever so much more useful and helpful if people were to trust them, as you have been kind enough to do, with more of the practical concerns of their spiritual life.

I have read your letter carefully a number of times. My impression is this: that you are only experiencing what so many sincere Christians feel when they stop to match their own emptiness against the sufficiency of Jesus Christ, and the heights to which they would soar. Paul felt this, as you will remember from the Epistle to the Romans, 7th chapter. But then read the 8th chap., my favorite, I think, of the whole Bible. So first, I would suggest: glory in Him. It is not your goodness, nor your success, nor your effort, that wins the day, it is His sacrifice, His goodness, His power.

Then remember the parable of the talents: To one man, one, another, two, still another five talents. The two-talent man did just as well, and received just as high commendation as the five talent man. The one-talent man had just as good a chance, as the others. The contrast and the lesson is not to exalt the five talent man over the two-talent man, but to tell us TO DO SOMETHING WITH WHAT WE HAVE, and leave the results to Him.

One of the most genuinely Christian men I ever knew could no more make a prayer in public than fly to the moon. But Dr. Jowett left a good word behind him when he reminded us "that men learn to pray in public, by praying in private". I know this man I speak of prayed much in private. But prayer with others, does often over-flow from a life that does much praying in private.

Then again, remember the parable of the last judgement, and the great surprise of those who said: "Lord when saw ~~te~~ Thee hungry or thirsty etc." And the Lord said: inasmuch as ye did it unto the least of these, ye did it unto me. You don't know how much good you

do. Perhaps it is as serious a fault to underestimate our service as to over-estimate it. We are not responsible for results. If I am working for a man, and he sets me at a long hard job, and when I have finished and done well, the work, I find, that for some reason, the firm is not going to use that product immediately, I do not say, I have wasted my time.

Another little suggestion. You know when you set out little plants in the spring, transplant them, for instance, it does them no good to pull the things up every day to see if the roots have begun to catch in the new earth. You just let the Spirit of God work out His good will for you. Don't pull yourself to pieces too often. A certain amount of honest self-examination before God is a valuable part of the Christian life, and be it said, too many modern Christians sadly neglect it, but there is excess on the other side, sometimes.

Finally, since you have been frank, let me be as frank. You say:"I play the piano passably well, and manage to get by with music for our church". I take it, you think, that is a rather trivial service. Please think for a time, that your music in the church is just the most important thing there is. Now, don't hide that talent in the earth. Your music is the wings on which many a soul worship God, your thought, prayer and feeling, put into it, blesses, people, and minister.

I sat to-day while an old died near at hand. The lady in the house said, last Sunday as they sat there, while he was sick, the music from a neighbor's radio drifted in, and somewhere a voice was singing a hymn. She said,"that lady will never know what a blessing that music was". Yes, some day she will know. But think if you will, that she might have been thinking, oh, well, this is nothing. I am in this studio, the microphone is all I see. It is a sunny Sunday afternoon, and nobody is bothering to listen. See, how mistaken she was, if she thought that way.

Perhaps this does not help much, but I mean it to, and will be glad to try again, if you think it worth while.

Cordially yours,

July 25, 1927.

Mr. Harvey Farmer,
North Africa Mission,
London, England.

My dear Mr. Farmer,-

Your good letter of July 8th was most welcome. I was very much distressed this summer, in June, when I came to London for a very few days not to be able to see you. My stay was the briefest, I ran over from Ostend where I had been attending the Rotary Convention and left almost immediately for Holland.

I was only able to write a letter to Miss Walker to which she made a kind reply.

The information you send gives me great joy. I had you in my thoughts all last year wondering if you and Mrs. Farmer might not be coming along soon.

I am going to take the liberty of informing the Sunday School Times, through Mr. Chas. G. Trumbull, who, by the way was at Keswick in 1925, and the Moody Bible Institute in Chicago, through Dr. Gray. And then, in addition I want to let some of my friends know who are in Princeton and elsewhere.

I want to do all that I can to make your visit to America delightful and profitable to you and the Work. You may be sure, that we want to have you and Mrs. Farmer here. We have a fine new boy in the family, which makes three children, and we are anxious to have you with us.

We will delight to join you in your prayers for a prosperous voyage.

Yours most sincerely,

July 25, 1927.

The Rev. James M. Gray,
Moothy Bible Institute,
Chicago, Ill.

My dear Dr. Gray,-

Two years ago (1925) I had the privilege of meeting Mr. Harvey Farmer at the Convention at Keswick (England). He is the general secretary for the North Africa Mission, an independent, thoroughly evangelical enterprise doing a great work in a most difficult field. There were about fifteen of their active missionaries there at the Conference. Dr. Scroggie was with them at their morning devotional hour, and among other things, Mr. Farmer and his associates were most kind to Mrs. Robinson and myself.

I told Mr. Farmer that if he ever came to America, I wanted to do what I could to make his trip here helpful to their work and the Kingdom.

I am just now in receipt of a letter from him, a copy of which I am taking the liberty of enclosing to you. I am also sending a number of their magazine, which Mr. Farmer handed me at Keswick. Mr. Chas. G. Trumbull was at Keswick at the time. I am writing him, Dr. Macartney, Dr. Machen etc. with the thought that perhaps that perhaps all of you might make some helpful suggestions in the way of getting Mr. Farmer and his wife before some of our people while he is here.

I hope to have them here as our guests, but this is only one place. I do not know how many lines Mr. Farmer has out, or how wide his acquaintance is here in the States, but I am most anxious to help him along a bit, if I can, and hence this letter.

If you find any way of using him at the Institute, or if you feel like suggesting him to others, I know he would be grateful, and I am f lly convinced in my own mind that his work and he, himself, are both deserving of our cordial interest. I say this advisedly, because I am a regular reader of the Moody Monthly, and by the way, enjoy it most thoroughly, and "clip it" assiduously.

With very sincere regards, I am,

Cordially yours,

FRANKLIN A. SMITH
BERKSHIRE FARM
MENTOR, OHIO 7-28.27

Rev. Vergert M Robinson.
Lockport N.Y.

My Dear friend:
I cannot tell you how greatly disappointed I was this morning in not being able to get your services over the air as I had never failed to do so before and am writing to ask you if the trouble was at your place —
I look eagerly forward all the week long to Sunday morning when I can hear your fine sermon over the Radio
I listen to many but none so good as yours —
Please kindly let me hear from you. Very sincerely yours

Franklin A. Smith

Alden Park Manor.
Germantown Pa. 2/27/27

My dear Mr. Robinson:

Had your good one & the Harpers article, both very nice to read and my hearty thanks for each. I am sorry to hear that the little people have had a "group illness" but noting that it's over — taut mieux.

The precepts learned on the boat seem to be staying by you. I fancy it is only making up for what was missed while you were in Europe in this matter of tucking good food under your belt. More power to you.

I should indeed be glad to be able to come up your way and share hang on to that hope and bring it to fruition if possible, letting you know, of course, if it can be worked, enough in advance so that the begg wagon can be oiled up.

My time has been so much every moment. Those contrariest Customs men were polite enough but our laws are beastly in this country, on tariff, if a man tries to be honest. I did not see Miss Sears again on the dock. Went to Prince Hotel and she was not there, so I was not able to say good-by.

My old Daddy has "perked-up" quite a bit for the present. Dr. is pleased I came, but says he can stay on 5 hours or 5 years depending on conditions. I have no very encouraging news of my poor daughter's account but, it is bound to come right anyhow.

Please pardon short one. It carries nevertheless all my best & good wishes to you — and if I may say so to yours. Tax vobiscum

Cordially

F. Stokes Crawford.

July 22, 1927.

Mr. E. Stateson Crawford,
Alden Park Manor,
Germantown, Penna.

My dear Mr. Crawford,-

The thought of you lingering behind in the hands of the customs' blood hounds has haunted me ever since that Monday, but I hope you got safely through, and reached Philadelphia and your Father.

I had dinner with my sister and brothers in NYC and caught the evening train for home. Found the youngsters on the way through the mazes of measles. Sister was out again, Sonny "came down" a day or so after my arrival, and the Baby, not to be outdone, reported at "sick call" one morning with a beautiful rash. But all is happily over, none of them were seriously sick, and we have done our bit abone that line, I hope.

There is a serious famine up in these parts, due to the very excellent training I had on the ship. The Q.M.Corps has been able to rush up enough to keep the army, so far. But they are being pressed.

The ship ride home was a very great success. I do not know when I have expected less of a trip, and found more. It only goes to show how well we are taken care of as we jog about our earthly journey.

I am sending an article from Harper's, which you have doubtless seen already, but if not, it may be of interest.

With all good wishes, and the hope that we may be able to see you in these parts before you return to France, I am,

Sincerely yours,

AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN MISSION
THE THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
SAHARANPUR-U.P.-INDIA

JOHN WICK BOWMAN

22 West Fayette Street,
Uniontown, Pennsylvania,

July 29th, 1927.

Dear Stewart:

For a long time I have felt that it was due you to write and say what a fine time I had the last visit in Lockport. I missed your presence considerably- that goes with saying, I think. But the "minister's wife" is a great asset, as you know, and the people with whom I stayed, the Ransons, the McCombs, and others made my visit one to be remembered. I really don't know what I should have done about a camera if it had not been for that visit to Rochester; I did not then even fully realize what going over there would mean by way of saving me from false steps in the wark and in numerous other ways. I am sending you herewith a copy of one of the pages that you may see what splendid work the camera is doing. I wish you would give the other page enclosed to the McCombs. May I have their address, by the way?

Most of my time has been taken up with this work since I returned. I have now taken 349 of the 350 pictures necessary to include every page in the work. The printing of the negatives will, of course, proceed more slowly. I sent a copy of a page to the Eastman Factory's expert whom I saw that day in Rochester and he is well pleased with the results I am getting. Several friends here have been of help with suggestions as to how to do the thing.

Since I last wrote or saw you, I have been asked by the committee in charge of a Christian Weekly in India, called the Nur Afshan, to take over its editorship upon my return to India; this will be in connection with my seminary work. As it is probably the most influential paper in Hindustani (Christian, that is) in North India, I feel that to take up this work will be a real opportunity, as, if I do not, someone less conservative may do so! But if I do, I am going to have to take a running start right now and gather some momentum to keep the thing going. With that in mind, I am wondering whether you could help me with a series of three or four articles for the front page- after the fashion of the British Weekly front page and about as long. These could be little sermonettes that you have delivered and might be on related or disrelated subjects, as you like. I know it is not a very satisfactory thing to write for a magazine printed in a language you cannot yourself read, but there is at least this consolation that you will be contributing to the Xn literature of a country that has so far a very meagre one; no one who would read these would ever read them in English if you so published them.

So you could give me something that you intended later for publication in English. I may take the liberty of again calling on you, too. Perhaps it would make it easy for you to ~~simply~~ run in a carbon copy of anything you will be working on this fall and simply send me the carbon copy. I can return it if you wish. It will be a great help to me and I shall much appreciate anything you can send.

With best regards from us all to Mrs. Robinson, yourself, and family, I am,

Cordially,

John

P.S.: The new arrival has not yet "arrived"; we are awaiting the great event to happen any day now. The Board is having to extend our home leave about a month because the event is not as early as we had hoped.

AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN MISSION
THE THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
SAHARANPUR-U.P.-INDIA

Saharanpur.

JOHN WICK BOWMAN

Dear Stuart:

Your letter came yesterday afternoon and I felt impelled to answer it this morning- it was too late to do so last night when I got it. I am sorry to have delayed so long in answering your former one. The fact of the matter is that I am just barely existing these days in the interest of my exam, holding on by my teeth so to speak and using all my energy in preparation; so sometimes I slip up on important correspondence. This isn't the first offense.

To come to the letter- I am afraid we had better decline your kind invitation to be in Newport so long this summer. There are several reasons- the two most important are- we are expecting an addition to our little family in July or August; so that would preclude the possibility of my wife's going with me; then, too, I have had to spend the whole winter away from home; so I feel that I owe it to my parents to spend the rest of our furlough with them. I know you will appreciate the urgency of both these facts. Another is this that after my exam comes the thesis, of course, and I want to spend most of my spare time on it this summer if I can. I shall have to write most of it in India, I suppose, but if I can get a start here it will help.

Just along that line, to write it is going to make a demand upon my pocket book to secure books. The Board has donated me $50. for this purpose, but that is only about a sixth of what I shall need, I'm afraid; so I am taking your hint of using that check the SS sent me for this purpose. It will help out considerably---- When I began this paragraph I wasn't going to tell you a secret but I may as well do so. Robertson has been offered for sale by Deissmann of Berlin a codex of the Four Gospels in Greek which he found recently at Ephesus; it is unknown to all scholars as Deissmann has told no one else. The Ms. dates from the 11 century, not very early, of course, but still it may be of considerable value textually. Robertson told me about it and offered me the chance of editing it as my thesis, provided he can get together the amount to buy it. Deissmann wants $750. for it and is going to use the amount in his excavations which he is now making at Ephesus. Well, I am getting busy on trying to raise the fund and think I have it all in sight. But if necessary, I am going to use that check toward this. I hope this will meet with your approval, as I judge it will. It is a chance that seldom comes to a man, of course, and I think [illegible] secure this Ms. But if not needed for this, I think I'll use the check for books as mentioned above.

John

P.S.: Please don't connect Deissmann's name with the Mss. He is keeping it for Dr. Robertson and is afraid his German friends may not like it if they know of this fund. There is room for jealousy, you know, in such cases. J.W.B.

August 1st 1927.

My dear John,-

Thank you for your good letter. I have had it on my conscience to write to you these some days. You made a great impression upon the people again, especially upon the men, and I am only sorry that I was not here to enjoy you, along with the others. I am happy that you were able to get the camera which will help you. The samples you send look first rate. I suppose the difficult thing is to get such prints that every letter is plain enough to be read without any doubt. I don't know whether you remember one Defrrarri who was a graduate student in Princeton, just about your first year in the Sem., it must have been. He was working with Prof. Van den Ven the Louvain man who was in Princeton for some time during the War. I did some work with Van den Ven in Greek patristics, and had a chance to see the photostatic copies of several manuscripts of Gregory Naz. I think. The two of them were getting out a translation and edition for the Loeb Classical Lib., as I remember it.

I appreciate the honor you do me in asking for some articles for the paper. Congratulations on the offer. They evidently want a good man, and I think they got one. I see every chance of your becoming a great factor in the work of the Kingdom in India, and in the world. I think you have the largest promise of real perm nent influence in the fact that you have a decided conservative tendency. I try not to be squeamish, but I so thoroughly convinced that the conservative has the major portion of the truth, that I am willing to go with even the extremists among conservatives, rather than aid and abet a movement which is ultimately the negation of the whole blessed thing. To me the liberal's fanatical fear lest we can't get the "mental frameworks" of this age to fit the tested truth of ages, suggests the very simple hypothesis that perhaps something is the matter with the darn frame-works. But it never seems to occur to the liberal. It is a bit like a man buying a car and being sold a single seater, and going home to tell his large family they can't travel with him. I want a car to carry the family, and they must all go along. What is the use of these fancy "frameworks" if they will not frame the necessary and indispensable picture. I came home with a prominent artist, a pupil of Whistler as a fellow passenger on the ship. We had long hours to-gether on an almost empty boat. He has spent years studying Dutch art and related the little known incident that when the great Rembrandt: Night Watch was hung at the Rijks in Amsterdam, they cut about two feet off the picture to make it fit the room it was hung in. I seem to see a lot of such goings

on in the realm of religious truth.

Consistent conservatism certainly means sacrifice here in this country now, but why not make a few sacrifices, give up a few university degrees, miss a few high salaries, feel the coldness of the self-styled intellectuals, for the sake of the Gospel? I can't see sense in selling my birth right for the mess of academic pottage that is being handed out so generously just now to any man who will sing the liberal's song.

However, enough of this. I'll have a most belligerent editorial tucked in here instead of a letter. We are all anxious to know of the welfare of your family, and of the safe and happy advent of the little missionary.

You certainly have a great outlook ahead of you, and I presume are anxious to get on your way. After all the work is the thing. Give our best to all. We eagerly look forward to any word or sight of you. The McCombs: W.E.McComb, Pine St.

Yours sincerely,

The Rev.John W.Bowman,
22 West Fayette Street,
Uniontown, Penna.

20 VANCLEEF STREET
SENECA FALLS, NEW YORK

July 31/27

Rev Stuart Robinson
Lockport, N.Y.

Dear Bro Robinson

As it was a stormy morning we did not attend church this morning but turned on the Radio and fortunately got the services from your church and enjoyed every word of it. We had never looked on the prodical son from that angle. We hope to hear you again.

Mr and Mrs L.G. Siegfred

August 24th 1927.

Mr.and Mrs.L.G.Siegfred,
20 VanCleef St.,
Seneca Falls, N.Y.

My dear Mr.and Mrs.Siegfred:-

Pardon my delay in answering your kind letter of July 31st. I went out of town just as I received it and only returned in time for the next Sunday. After that some pressing got in between me and my duties as a letter-writer.

It was very kind of you to let us he r from you. Through letters, we have been brought in touch with a large circle of friends scattered about all over. While they are unknown by face, I feel that in a way our church serves them, and it is a delightful sensation to feel that the work is doing good in one way another among people whom you cannot see.

Perhaps some good fortune will give me the pleasure one day of meeting you personally. In any event I feel acquainted with you, and want you to consider me your friend and well-wisher.

Cordially yours,